

Amendments to the Claims:

The following claims will replace all prior versions of the claims in the application:

Claims: /

1 Claim 1 (original): A pre-cast polyacrylamide slab gel for use in slab gel
2 electrophoresis, said pre-cast gel comprising:
3 a pair of chemically inert, transparent plates with inner surfaces coated with a
4 nonionic amphiphilic polymer; and
5 a polyacrylamide gel cast between said plates.

1 Claim 2 (original): A pre-cast polyacrylamide slab gel in accordance with claim 1 in
2 which said nonionic amphiphilic polymer is polyvinyl alcohol.

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1 Claim 3 (original): A pre-cast polyacrylamide slab gel in accordance with claim 1 in
2 which said nonionic amphiphilic polymer is polyethylene glycol.

1 Claim 4 (original): A pre-cast polyacrylamide slab gel in accordance with claim 1 in
2 which said plates are glass.

1 Claim 5 (original): A pre-cast polyacrylamide slab gel in accordance with claim 1 in
2 which said plates are plastic.

1 Claim 6 (original): A pre-cast polyacrylamide slab gel in accordance with claim 1 in
2 which said plates are polystyrene-acrylonitrile blend.

1 Claim 7 (currently amended): A pre-cast polyacrylamide slab gel in accordance with
2 claim 1 further comprising a coating of polyvinylidene chloride between each ~~said~~ plate and said
3 coating of nonionic amphiphilic polymer.